

MINUTES OF THE FORT HOOD RETIREE COUNCIL MEETING

1. The 12 January 2007 meeting of the Fort Hood Retiree Council convened at 1200 hours in the DHR/IAG Conference Room, Bldg 18010.
2. Membership Attendance:
 - a. Members Present: LTG(Ret) Palmer, Chairman; CSM(Ret) Cayton, Vice Chairman; MG(Ret) Meyer, Assoc. Member; Col(Ret) Oliver, Assoc. Member; COL(Ret) Portmann, Member; COL(Ret) Somera, Member; COL(Ret) Davis, Member; LTC(Ret) Woodward, Member; CW3(Ret) Hanger, Member; CSM(Ret) Minosky, Member; CSM(Ret) Kitterman; 1SG(Ret) Fisher, Member; SCPO(Ret) Lubasky; and SFC(Ret) Evans-Quickley, Member.
 - b. Members Absent: 1SG(Ret) Miller, Member; Mrs. Shirley Greathouse, Widow.
3. The Chairman called the meeting to order and welcomed the council members to the meeting. As the newly appointed chairman, LTG(Ret) Palmer introduced himself and gave some of his background information to the council.
4. The Vice Chairman opened discussion for old and new business. There was one item of old business and 4 items of new business.
 - a. First item (Old Business): Discuss changing date for Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD). After open discussion of the issues, the motion for the date to remain the last weekend of October carried unanimously by the council. The Retiree Council formally requests that the Commanding General, III Corps and Fort Hood approve the dates 26 & 27 October 2007 for the 33rd Annual Retiree Appreciation Day.
 - b. First item (New Business): Guest Speaker for 33rd Annual RAD. After open discussion by the council, the council agreed upon the below 4 options for guest speakers.
 - 1) First Choice: VA Secretary or one of the under secretaries from the VA. CSM(Ret) Minosky volunteered to check on availability.
 - 2) Second Choice: Representative from the Army Surgeon General Office to speak on the 5 year medical plan for the Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center at Fort Hood.
 - 3) Third Choice: LTG(Ret) Chuck Graham, Chairman of the Texas Veterans Memorial Advisory Committee and Former Fort Hood Division Commander. The Chairman said that if needed he would work that request and perhaps ask him to be on stand-by if there happened to be a cancellation by the selected guest speaker.
 - 4) Fourth Choice: Representative from the Texas Veterans Land Board in reference to the Texas Veterans Cemetery: Mr. Jerry Patterson, Chairman, Texas Veterans Land Board or Mr. Jack Slayton, Texas State Cemetery Program Director.
 - c. Second item (New Business): Guest Speaker for next Retiree Council Meeting. After open discussion, the council approved that the Garrison Commander and her Command Sergeant Major address the next council meeting. The Council requested that they hear from both the Commander and Command Sergeant Major reference the current state of Fort Hood; what is the current chain of command

Fort Hood Retiree Council Minutes, 12 January 2007 (cont'd)

(officer and enlisted) III Corps and Fort Hood while III Corps is deployed. The Chairman directed that Ms. Waller send up the request to the Garrison Commander with the stipulation that if the Garrison Commander is not available that the Command Sergeant Major can address the council in her place. In open discussion it was also brought up that the CRDAMC Commander would be changing out in July and to ensure that the new CRDAMC Commander is slated to address the council at a meeting soon after the change of command.

d. Third item (New Business): Next date for Retiree Council meeting. The council discussed whether to have the council meeting during March 2007 or April 2007. The council approved to have the meeting in April 2007 with a preferred date of 19 April 2007. However, if the Garrison Commander was not available that date, any date from 16-19 April 2007 would be acceptable. The council asked that meetings not be scheduled on Fridays as there are too many conflicts with their schedules.

e. Fourth item (New Business): Discuss selection of Retiree Council Secretary. Ms. Waller asked that the council discuss appointing a secretary for the council to draft minutes for approval for the meetings. After open discussion, CSM(Ret) Kitterman was nominated and she accepted the nomination. The council approved her unanimously to be the Retiree Council Secretary.

5. CSM(Ret) Cayton gave an update on the AAFES council. The AAFES Food Mall (Clear Creek PX) has more seating available. There is also a seating area for those who are waiting while their spouse shops in the PX. The Food Court is of good quality and a nice addition to the PX. He also stated the PX prices continue to rise.

6. COL(Ret) Portmann did not have an update for the Council from the Healthcare Advisory Council meeting because it had not met yet. COL(Ret) Portmann stated that he would draft notes from the meeting and forward to the council members. Those not having e-mail, Retirement Services will mail a copy of the notes to them.

7. LTC(Ret) Woodward updated the council on Volunteer Services. He stated that Caremobile Drivers are still needed for CRDAMC. The Army Volunteer Corps with its new database to roll up volunteer hours is now online. Handouts with information were in the council members packets. During open discussion the council asked how the volunteer hours were rolled up; were they cross-walked with the Red Cross volunteer hours? The Chairman directed that on the agenda for the next meeting some one from the Volunteer Directorate talk to the Council reference the new volunteer website, how it works and how the hours are rolled up.

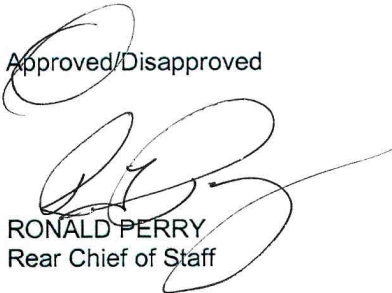
8. Mr. Hanger gave the Commissary Council Update. The Clear Creek Commissary Manager, Mr. John Sidell will be leaving February 2, 2007. Mr. Hanger wanted to ensure that Mr. Sidell was recognized with a certificate of appreciation for all of Mr. Sidell's hard work and support of retirees in the area. Mr. Hanger also reported that cigarette prices at the commissary have also risen because of the increase in cigarette taxes on the economy. The parking lots in front of the commissary have additional handicap, Gold Star Survivors, and Disabled Veteran parking places. There are now hand sanitizers by the shopping carts at the commissary entrances. This convenience has received many positive comments. The parking lot in front of the Clear Creek Commissary will be closed from May-June for the case lot sales. Mr. Hanger asked for questions and SFC(Ret) Evans-Quickley asked why the gazebo area by the commissary couldn't be used for the case lot sale. Mr. Hanger said he would bring it up at the commissary meeting.

9. The Chairman opened the forum for general discussion. The council brought up that during Retiree Appreciation Day, the dental screenings during the Health Fair were actually screenings for mouth cancer. Retirees thought that the dental screening was to check for cavities, etc. The Chairman stated that clear expectations need to be put out by the sponsoring agencies ahead of time. He stated that optimally the services should be established in the publication of the Fort Hood Retiree Newsletter so that retirees and their family members will know what to expect. The council members also brought up that LTG(Ret) Taylor should be recognized for his years of leadership on the council (over 5 years). CSM(Ret) Cayton recommended LTG(Ret) Taylor be nominated for the Jefferson Award (Texas State Award). The Chairman asked that COL(Ret) Gauer (former recipient of the award) provide information to Ms. Waller for LTG(Ret) Taylor's nomination. Also, brought up during discussion were nominees for the Honorary Retiree for the 33rd Annual Retiree Appreciation Day. The Chairman directed that this topic also be added to the next agenda and that prior to the next meeting, Ms. Waller e-mail the criteria for selection to the council members.

10. During closing remarks, the Chairman stated that he appreciated the council's patience during his first meeting. He also stated that he deeply appreciated the council's service for all retirees and their family members in the area. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1300 hours.


LTG(Ret) DAVE PALMER
Chairman

Approved/Disapproved


RONALD PERRY
Rear Chief of Staff